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## Switzerland County Cemetery Commission Report for 2010

Commission Members:

Carolyn Miller Darrell Brown

Nancy Barker Shila Geyman

Lewis Fritter



Again this year we have found much interest in cemetery discovery and preservation from local citizens. We have had locals come in to report burial spots and to request restoration of small cemeteries, and tourists call & come in attempting to find locations of burial spots and/or cemeteries.

## In 2010 The Commission has:

- 1. April: Filed a 2009 Cemetery Commission report with the Antiquity Division of the Department of Natural Resources.
- 2. Appeared before the Vevay & Patriot Town Boards to request funds for cemetery restoration
- 3. Sent requests for cemetery restoration funds to VFW & Farm Bureau & to Switzerland County Tourism
- 4 May: Sponsored a Cemetery Workshop given by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources with Antiquity Division head person, Jeannie Regan-Dinius and the *Graveyard Groomer*, with about 30 in attendance
- 5. May: Hired Graveyard Groomer for cemetery restoration completed work on the Shaw Cemetery (Craig Twp), worked on the old Sec 1 & 2 of Vevay Cemetery, worked on the Patriot Cemetery
- 6. July: Hired Jacob Geyman & crew to rebuild the wall, etc, at the Hunt's Creek Cemetery (Jeff Twp), all completed except for 2 stones
- 7. October: Hired Graveyard Groomer to come back to work on Vevay Cemetery & Patriot
  Cemetery.
- 8. October: Worked with Ecomonic Development as they hired restorers to complete restoration on Gullion Cemetery (York Twp)
- 9. November: Contributed funds to the restorers as the Dumont Club paid the balance to restore the 2 Dumont obelisks in Vevay Cemetery
- 10. Found 3 more endangered cemeteries (in addition to 5 last yr)

  Phillips Cemetery (Jefferson), Tapp Cemetery (Jefferson), Brown Cemetery (Posey)
- 11. Have run 3 articles in the "Vevay Reveille" as news & educational updates on some of the oldest cemeteries in the county
- 12. This year volunteers have raised sunken stones, cleaned stones, etc., saving hours of paid labor
- 13. Darrell Brown continues to research Revolutionary War Soldiers & other early burials in the county

## Goals for 2011

- 1. Finish Hunts Creek Cemetery by restoring 2 damaged stones
- 2. Work more on the Vevay Cemetery & the Patriot Cemetery
- 3. Encourage & assist Jeff Twp Trustee to hire restorer to raise Ig. stones on Phillips Cemetery
- 4. Assist the Pleasant Twp Trustee with restoration on Chapel Ridge Cemetery
- 5. Begin work on Zion Chapel & Old Bethel Cemeteries (Craig) using volunteers & hired restorers
- 6. Help to restore the small **Dufour Cemetery** (York Twp)
- 7. Organize volunteers to work when restorers come to reset & epoxy stones
- 8. Continue to work to identify any new reports of burial grounds reported to the Commission
- 9. Photograph & send in reports on each of the endangered cemeteries & those with Revolutionary or 1812 Vets

The Current balance in the Cemetery Fund is \$8,377.13

**Asking for \$15,000** 

The Challenge: to obtain services from John Walters and crew for 13 days @\$1,025.00 per day (\$125,00 per diem, plus \$90 per hr), starting in May, with additional days in the fall if we are financially able.

To also be able to pay our digitizers for their work as it continues.

Carolyn J. Miller, Cemetery Comm Member

Approved by:

Brian Morton, President of the Switz County Commissioners

Kenton C. Banta, Commissioner

H. Craig Bond, Commissioner